Application No. 10/681,843
Am'ndt Dated: July 14, 2005
Office Action Mailed: June 30, 2005

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In the outstanding Office Action, the Examiner held the response dated March 30, 2005 was not fully responsive to the previous Office Action, the Examiner asserting Applicant "did not elect between the inventions of Group I-A or *(sic)* I-B." (Emphasis in original.)

In the previous Office Action, the Examiner defined Group I-A as "Claims 1-5, 9-11, and 22-38" and further required an election to one of five species A – E asserted by the Examiner to be patentably distinct. In response, Applicant explicitly elected Species A, stating:

> In response to the requirement to elect between species, Applicants elect the single disclosed species drawn to the embodiment disclosed by FIGS. 1A-1D, 1A', 1B' and 1D'. Claims 1-4, 10, 11, 22-30, and 32-38 all are readable on Species A and on alleged Species B. For completeness of response, if the Examiner persists in holding that Species A and Species B are distinct, Species A is elected, but an explanation of why Species B is considered to be different and patentably distinct from Species A, both of which describe and illustrate the same embodiment, is requested.

Comparing the claims identified in the species election by Applicants with the claims associated by the Examiner with Group I-A, it is necessarily implicit that Applicants elected the invention of Group I-A. The election of the Group I-A invention is now confirmed.

Conclusion

It is hoped an early action on the merits may now be received without further delay. If there are any questions discussion of which would expedite further prosecution of the application, a telephone call to the undersigned (972-862-7428) would be appreciated.

Date: July 14, 2005
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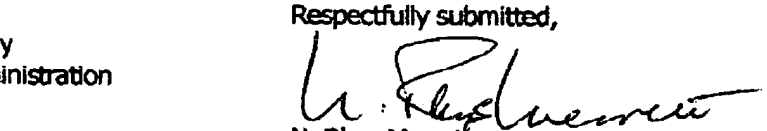
Respectfully submitted,



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